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## *Foreign Affairs*

# THE HUGE NEW RED ARMY

By Raymond Lawrence

Fortieth birthday of the Soviet Army serves to remind us that it is the largest and most powerful ground force in the world today.

This is especially important because the red army is a potent instrument of Soviet foreign policy and not exclusively a military weapon.

Some two years ago Allen W. Dulles, director of the Central Intelligence Agency, told this writer that a radical and extensive military reorganization was under way in Russia. Apparently now it has been pushed to completion. Time magazine has reviewed the startling progress and development of conventional weapons.

In design, tanks, troop carriers, artillery, short-range missiles, transport, and small arms the Soviet Union has made some remarkable development which has been overlooked in the world-wide alarm over long-range missiles.

### Supports Expansion

Any nation's armed forces are to some extent instruments of foreign policy but the degree to which this is true in the Soviet Union has been usually due to:

- One, political doctrines;
- Two, expansionist aims and the stresses engendered.

Nikolai Galay, military historian and staff member of the Institute for the Study of the USSR, estimates:

"Soviet's social and economic structure, directed primarily to satisfying military requirements in a ceaseless struggle with the non-communist world, have provided the Central Committee of the communist party with a vast military machine, which can be switched either to total atomic war, or to conventional warfare on a limited scale."

"This is one of the main reasons why the armed forces are an effective foreign policy weapon and a constant threat to the free world."

### Creates the Red Empire

Never in expanding its political doctrines and territorial influence has the Soviet Union succeeded without the use, or threat of its use, of armed force.

In the past 40 years it has crushed one up- after another in the Soviet Union, attacked Finland, participated in the partition of Poland, seized the Baltic states, and created satellites in Poland, Rumania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Albania, East Germany and Hungary.

In other words, the red empire was fashioned by the Soviet armed forces.

Tensions and stresses in the captive countries make it imperative that the army always be in evidence. Only force keeps the satellites bound to Moscow and continues to write the tragic record of repression and enslavement, marked by some of the most ruthless acts in history.

So it is that the U.S. Army has a good case for being rearmed with better weapons—at least to the point where the Army Chief of Staff, General Taylor, is not humiliated to confess that the Russians have tactical rockets and missiles "to which we have no response."